

RAJAH JAYAPAL

Assistant Professor, School of Human Ecology

EDUCATION & RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Dr Rajah Jayapal is essentially a birdwatcher trained in wildlife ecology and conservation. After his undergraduation in Agriculture from Annamalai University in Tamil Nadu, he studied M.Sc. Wildlife Science at Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun. He then continued to investigate the adequacy and rationale of Protected Area network in Madhya Pradesh using birds, environment, and socioeconomic indicators. In the course of the latter project, Dr Jayapal studied the macroecology of forest birds of Central Indian Highlands for his PhD from Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun. His research interests include ornithology, wildlife conservation, forest ecology, ecosystem responses to human enterprises and development, and biostatistics and quantitative methods.

PAST EMPLOYMENT:

After his post-graduation at WII, Dr Jayapal received their Research Fellowship and worked with various research projects. These included development of key spatial databases for the entire Western Himalaya Conservation Area, bird survey of the high-altitude cold desert of Ladakh, a survey on livestock depredation by wild carnivores in Zaskar Valley in Ladakh, and developing a spatial conservation protocol for Central Indian forests. After his PhD, he worked as a consultant for ATREE, Bangalore and as Programme Head (Science & Policy) with Group for Nature Preservation and Education (GNAPE), a Chennai-based NGO. Before he joined AUD, he was working with Wildlife Conservation Society-India (WCS), Bangalore as Conservation Scientist. Dr Jayapal had also been teaching ornithology and quantitative ecology to the students of M.Sc. Wildlife course at Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun and National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), Bangalore.

CURRENT RESEARCH:

Currently, Dr Jayapal is involved as an advisor to two student research projects of NCBS, Bangalore. One project aims to examine the River Brahmaputra as a potential biogeographic barrier for bird populations in north-eastern India with implications for speciation and bird conservation. The second project investigates the patterns of multiple use of wetlands by humans and its impacts on wetland biodiversity in Andhra Pradesh. Both the projects are expected to be completed by the end of June, 2012.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Member of editorial board of two Indian journals: *Indian Birds* and *Journal of Threatened Taxa*
- Member of the reviewer panel of national and international journals: *Conservation & Society*, *Journal of Bombay Natural History Society*, *Forktail*, and *African Journal of Ecology*
- Member of the IUCN Species Survival Commission-Deer Specialist Group, Gland, Switzerland for the period 2009-12

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

Peer-reviewed Journals

- R. Jayapal, Q. Qureshi, and R. Chellam, 2009. Importance of forest structure versus floristics to composition of avian assemblages in tropical deciduous forests of Central Highlands, India. *Forest Ecology and Management*, 257:2287-2295.
- V. Sahajpal, S.P. Goyal, M.K. Thakar, and R. Jayapal, 2009. Microscopic hair characteristics of a few bovid species listed under Schedule-I of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 of India. *Forensic Science International*, 189:34-45.
- Jayapal, R., Q. Qureshi, and R. Chellam. 2005. Some significant records of birds from the central Indian highlands of Madhya Pradesh. *Indian Birds*, 1:98-102.

Books/Technical Reports/Manuals

- R. Jayapal and K. Ramesh, 2009. *Management Plan for Rupi-Bhaba Wildlife Sanctuary, Himachal Pradesh* (April, 2010 – March, 2015). Draft report submitted to the Himachal Pradesh State Forest Department, Shimla. Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. 159 pp.
- ATREE, 2007. *National Capacity Self-Assessment: Thematic Assessment Report on Biodiversity*. India's Report to CBD by ATREE on behalf of MoEF & UNDP-India.
- R. Jayapal, Q. Qureshi, and R. Chellam, 2007. *Developing a Spatial Conservation Protocol for Central Indian Highlands through a Biogeographical Analysis of Birds and Existing Protected Area Network: A Geographical Information Systems Approach*. Research Report No. R.R. 07/001. Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- R. Jayapal, 2002. *Socio-economic Indicators & Identification of Potential Sites for Conservation in the Western Himalaya*. In: Q. Qureshi, V.B. Mathur, and Y.V. Bhatnagar (ed). *Identify Potential Areas for Conserving Biodiversity in the Indian Himalaya*. Final Technical Report. Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun and United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington DC.
- R. Jayapal, Y.V. Bhatnagar, Q. Qureshi, and V.B. Mathur, 2000. *Patterns of Livestock Depredation by Wild Animals in Zaskar, Ladakh*. Report submitted to Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun and United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington DC.
- S. Dutt, R. Jayapal, K. Sankar, and A.J.T.J. Johnsingh, 1999. *Field Techniques Manual for Forest Staff*. Published by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun for Tamil Nadu State Forest Department, Chennai.